

Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge

Volunteer Newsletter

July 2015



What's New?

Welcome to our new volunteer couple Paul and Carolyn Cardile from Texas! They will be staying on the RV pad at the bunkhouse. Carolyn is a retired educator who volunteers at South Padre Island Birding and Nature Center. Paul is retired, but working as bookstore manager part-time at Lagona Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge in south Texas. Paul will be helping in the bookstore while Carolyn will help the front desk, roving ranger and educational programs.

We are so excited to have them!



2015 Youth Conservation Corps are Here!

There are 5 members of our YCC crew. Noah, Kimberly, Cameron, Megan and Noah. They have many projects lined up to accomplish this field season. They will be working on boundary posting, painting kiosks, Canadian Goose Club cleanup, finishing the boardwalk on the Marsh Meander Trail, Avocet banding and cleaning up the hunt blind. These are just a few of the tasks in store for this awesome crew!

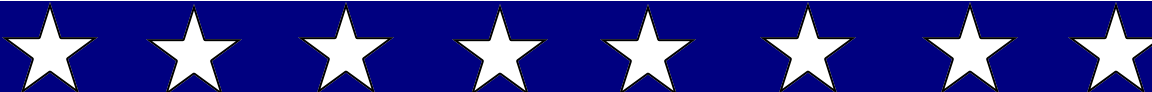


Katie and Jen will be working together to create a successful field season for the crew. They are a great team, willing to work hard, do a good job and have fun learning about the Refuge!

Utah Conservation Corps



We hosted the UCC from June 15-26th! They are a very valuable asset to the Refuge. The crew of four stayed busy helping Doug with eradicating invasive species. They sprayed the Yates tract, the Islands, and recently burned 4c and 5c areas. In the afternoons, they cleaned ditches and flumes.



Upcoming Events & Volunteer Opportunities

- ♦ May 30th-Aug. 28th: Summer Sat. Tours 10:00 am
- ♦ July 4th– Aug. 28th: Nature Films 1-3 pm
- ♦ July 24th: Happy Pioneer Day!
- ♦ August 14th: YCC Last Day BBQ!



Tribute to an Avid Birder

Bill Fenimore passed away on June 21st, 2015. He was a great advocate and friend of the Refuge. He contributed various educational opportunities for many people. Bill wore many hats and had multiple talents. He volunteered countless hours to wildlife conservation efforts. We send our condolences to his family.



Play Unplugged with Box Elder County!

Play Unplugged is all about encouraging kids to put down their electronics, get outside and play. Kids earn a Brag Badge for every activity they complete. Each Brag Badge has points they can collect and then turn in for real life rewards as defined by their parents. Our goal is to help kids re-engage with the real world, help parents plan a fun and exciting summer and give much needed visibility to local businesses. Here at the Refuge, if they find a bird they need to learn how it moves and lives, then see if they can imitate it's call. Kids earn a badge worth 5 brag points!

Nature Art Camp Wrap-up!



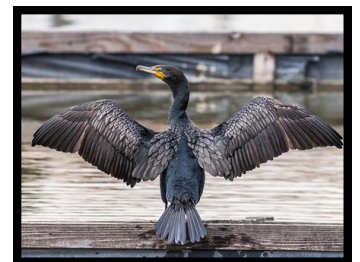
Nature art camp was a great success this year. As always we had a wonderful time partnering with the Brigham City Fine Arts Center. We had the largest group on record, and the kids were fantastic! A big thank you to the Fine Arts Center, as well as, Jen and Alyssa for working hard to make sure the kids had an awesome time. The theme for this year's camp was "raptors". The kids not only made raptor-related crafts,



but were able to learn about them as well. Also a big thank you to the kids for helping us wrap-up our Bird Banner Contest by creating some incredible bird banner art! Our EVS team looks forward to this camp every year, and we can't wait to see what art the kids will create next year!

Creature Feature: Double-crested Cormorant

- Having less preen oil than other birds, their feathers tend to get soaked. They spread their feathers out to let dry in the sun before flying again.
- When cormorants nest on the ground, babies will congregate into groups with other youngsters called creches.



July Jokes

1. What did one flag say to the other?
2. What dance was very popular in 1776?
3. What did Polly the parrot want for the 4th of July?

1) Nothing it just waved 2) Independence 3) A Fire cracker